

Message Text

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ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 L-03 IO-13 CIAE-00 INR-10
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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EFIS SENV IWC-1 PE
SUBJ: PERUVIAN MEMBERSHIP IN IWC

REF: FULLER-SMITH TELECON, APRIL 24, 1978

1. IN ATTEMPT TO VERIFY REPORT THAT GOP HAS ANNOUNCED PUBLICLY ITS DECISION TO JOIN IWC, ECON OFF SPOKE APRIL 25 WITH ENRIQUE ROMAN OF FOREIGN MINISTRY'S MARITIME SOVEREIGNTY OFFICE (SUCCESSOR TO ALVARO DE SOTO) AND AUGUSTO URRUTIA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF PRODENA, LOCAL CHAPTER OF WORLD WILD-LIFE FUND. BOTH MEN CONFIRMED THAT GOP HAD NOT YET MADE PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF DECISION TO JOIN IWC. ROMAN SAID, HOWEVER, THAT DECISION TO JOIN WAS ALL BUT FINAL AND ADDED THAT GOP IS NOW CONSIDERING WHEN TO MAKE DECISION PUBLIC. ONE POSSIBILITY, ACCORDING TO ROMAN, IS TO HAVE DR. RAMIREZ LITUMA, LEGAL ADVISOR TO FISHERIES MINISTER AND MEMBER OF GOP DELEGATION TO LAW OF SEA CONFERENCE, MAKE THE ANNOUNCEMENT IN GENEVA DURING LOS SESSION. ROMAN COULD NOT GIVE ESTIMATE ON WHEN PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT WOULD BE MADE.

2. URRUTIA, WHO IS FELIPE BENAVIDES' RIGHT-HAND-MAN ON WHALE CONSERVATION MATTERS, TOLD ECON OFF HE WAS SURPRISED TO RECEIVE COPY OF TELEGRAM FROM A EUROPEAN
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CONSERVATION GROUP TO PERUVIAN PRESIDENT MORALES BERMUDEZ CONGRATULATING LATTER ON PERU'S DECISION TO JOIN IWC. URRUTIA DID NOT KNOW WHERE GROUP HAD LEARNED (INCORRECTLY) THAT GOP HAD ANNOUNCED DECISION TO JOIN COMMISSION. ECON OFF DID NOT MENTION THAT WE HAD LEARNED THAT FELIPE BENAVIDES APPEARED TO BE SOURCE OF INFORMATION, AND FROM WAY URRUTIA SPOKE, WE HAVE IMPRESSION THAT HE IS UNAWARE THAT

BENAVIDES IS SPREADING THIS STORY.

3. COMMENT: IT SEEMS QUITE CLEAR THAT PERUVIANS HAVE NOT MADE PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF ITS INTENTION TO JOIN IWC. WE HAVE REVIEWED PERUVIAN PRESS FOR APRIL 11-14 PERIOD AND HAVE FOUND NO ARTICLES ON THE SUBJECT. MOREOVER, IF GOP HAD MADE ANNOUNCEMENT, URRUTIA, WITH WHOM WE HAVE CONTINUAL CONTACT, WOULD HAVE INFORMED US IMMEDIATELY. IT MAY BE THAT BENAVIDES, IN HIS ZEAL TO PRESERVE THE WHALES, WAS ENGAGING IN PREMATURE WISHFUL THINKING.

DECON APRIL 27, 1979. SHLAUDEMAM

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Message Attributes

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TAGS: EFIS, SENV, PE, IWC-1
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